# Federal Sustainable Environmental Stewardship

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## Highlights

- We've made great progress getting here
- Lots of folks are working on sustainability in the Federal government
- And we've got a big vision

### Federal Leadership

"[I]t is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations ... to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans." NEPA, 1969

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### Over the last 30 years ...

- Our economy grew 164%
- Our population grew 39%
- Our energy consumption grew 42%

### We've made incredible progress

- Key air pollutants have been cut in half
- Toxic releases also are down 48%
- Number of citizens who benefit from modern wastewater treatment doubled (86 million to 165 million)

### Incredible Progress

- Energy use has grown at 1/4 of economic growth
- Renewable energy generation increased 30%
- Our health is improving life expectancy is a record 77.4 years

### Federal Government's Progress

- Cut building energy intensity by 23%
- Cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2.8 million metric tons
- Tripled renewable energy purchases
- 125 Federal buildings are Energy Star

#### **Cool Stuff**

- Hybrid Humvees
- Fuel-cell drones
- Thin film PV on Army backpacks and tents
- Green buildings
- New Virginia submarines and T-AKE ships
- President's ranch and White House solar

### ... But Challenges Remain

So the Federal Government should:

Lead by example

Be a good steward

Be a good neighbor

# So who's working on sustainability in the Federal government?

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# Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

- Created by Executive Order in 1993
- Reports to White House CEQ
- Funded by EPA
- Responsibilities & mission have grown



#### What We Do

Mission: Promote sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the Federal government

Strategic Tool: Environmental management systems

#### **Sustainable Practices:**

- Waste prevention and recycling
- Green purchasing
- Green buildings
- Electronics stewardship

#### **How We Do it**

- Training and awareness
- Sharing success stories, lessons learned, and best practices
- Measuring and reporting
- Facilitating dialogue
- Creating and expanding networks
- Liaison within the Administration

# Federal Green Building Council

- Created to implement report recommendations
- Performance metrics
- Life cycle tools
- R&D inventory
- Pool and share information

# Interagency Sustainability Working Group

- Devoted to green buildings
- Led by DOE/FEMP
- Developed Business Case report
- Whole Building Design Guide
- Assisting Federal Green Building Council

# Federal Network for Sustainability

- Created in April 2000
- Team of western Federal agencies
- Working together on:
  - Electronics stewardship
  - EMS training
  - Purchasing green power
  - Copy paper
- www.federalsustainability.gov

## EPA's P3 Strategy

- Beyond P2
- People, Prosperity, and Planet
- Student design competition
  - www.epa.gov/p3
- Working to pull together various efforts
  - www.epa.gov/sustainability

#### White House OSTP

- National Committee on Science and Technology
- Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources
- Working group on sustainability
- R&D focus

### State Department www.sdp.gov

- Link environmental stewardship, economic growth and social development to lift people out of poverty
- +\$5 billion (3 yrs) in development aid
- +\$15 billion (5 yrs) to fight HIV/AIDS, TB & malaria
- 20+ partnerships from Congo Basin Forests to Coral Reefs

# DOD's Sustainable Installations Program

- 8 bases
- Working with communities, setting 25year goals
- Zero waste, 100% renewable energy
- www.envquest.com

#### **Fort Lewis**

- Developed an EMS
- Part of Army sustainability initiative
- Conflict? No, just expanded EMS to cover sustainability
- 25-year plan with goals and 5-year benchmarks
- Developed with community

# So what does all this have to do with P2?

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# Five Strategies for Sustainability

- 1. Integrate our environmental work
- 2. Integrate environmental issues into our mission
- 3. Integrate environmental issues across jurisdictions
- 4. Integrate decisionmaking across time
- 5. Integrate sustainability into our lives

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